

# TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

## QUARTERLY RESEARCH NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2

OCTOBER 15, 2005

### POPULATION AT A GLANCE (AS OF JUNE 30, 2005)

#### Total Population:

% Male 94.1%

% Female 5.9%

Average Age: 35.9 yrs

#### Racial Breakdown:

% White	52.1%
% Afro-American	46.1%
% Other	1.8%

#### Custody Level:

	# Offenders	% of Total
Maximum	922	4.8%
Close	514	2.7%
Medium	13,587	70.9%
Minimum	3,335	17.4%
Unclassified	805	4.2%
TOTAL	19,163	

#### UPCOMING RESEARCH:

*Recidivism Update*

*Incarcerated Mothers and their Children*

*Technical Violators*

*Female Offenders*

#### Population Projections\*

**Total inmate population expected to increase 19.2% by 2016.**

June 2005: 26,593

June 2016: 31,688

*\*These projections include the stock, back-up and locally sentenced populations.*

#### Primary Offense Group

Homicide 18.6%

Sex Offenses 14.6%

Assault 11.6%

Robbery 17.2%

Drug Offenses 14.5%



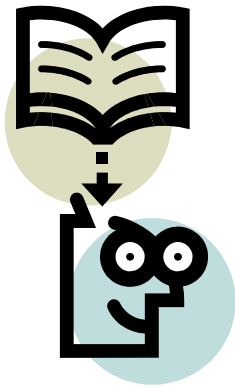
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## TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

### ***Mission Statement:***

THE MISSION OF THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION IS TO INCARCERATE CRIMINAL FELONY OFFENDERS IN A SECURE, HUMANE AND DISCIPLINED INSTITUTIONAL ENVIRONMENT THAT MEETS THE STANDARDS OF THE LAW, WHILE EMPHASIZING PUBLIC SAFETY, OFFENDER REHABILITATION AND THE ADVANCEMENT OF STRONG AND EFFICIENT CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY.



The Tennessee Department of Correction is committed to ensuring public safety through the incarceration and rehabilitation of convicted felons. The goal of the Department is to provide educational, vocational and treatment programs that will help them become productive citizens upon their re-entry into society.

Currently, there are more than 19,000 inmates assigned to the State's 15 prisons. The Department operates 12 of those facilities. Three are managed privately by Corrections Corporation of America. Two of the State operated prisons are designated for women.

Tennessee's Department of Correction is recognized nationally for its management of prison operations. It was one of the first Departments in the nation to earn national accreditation from the American Correctional Association, and it's a tradition that continues. Only a handful of Departments nationwide are fully accredited.

All inmates entering the Tennessee Department of Correction are processed through one of four reception and classification centers located at the Tennessee Prison for Women, Brushy Mountain Correctional Complex, Charles Bass Correctional Complex and West Tennessee State Penitentiary.

Once an inmate arrives at the center, TDOC staff members collect and evaluate personal information to determine program and security needs. During the classification process, counselors determine a prison assignment and level of supervision needed for the inmate. While incarcerated, inmates are assigned to programs that meet their needs, such as work, education and vocational training.

### ***FY 2004-05 WORK CREW STATISTICS AT A GLANCE***



#### **Estimated Total Savings:**

\$6,464,697.10  
(based on minimum wage)

**Total Hours:**  
1,255,281 hrs.



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## Work Crew Savings: By Institution

Institution	Total Hours	Estimated Savings*
BMCX	203,105	\$ 1,045,990.75
CBCX	249,784	\$ 1,286,387.60
HCCF	23,520	\$ 121,128.00
MLCC	34,107	\$ 175,651.05
NECX	224,391	\$ 1,155,613.65
NWCX	90,451	\$ 465,822.65
SCCF	31,274	\$ 161,061.10
STSR	54,924	\$ 282,858.60
TPW	172,442	\$ 888,076.30
TCIP	2,310	\$ 11,896.50
WCBC	160,110	\$ 824,566.50
WTSP	8,863	\$ 45,644.45
SYSTEM	1,255,281	\$ 6,464,697.15

\* Based on minimum wage ( \$5.15)

### Spotlight:

#### Specialty Populations

##### Aging & Terminally Ill

- Currently, TDOC has 2,035 inmates  $\geq$  50 yrs old
- By February 2015, 1,543 male inmates, or 75% of the current population  $\geq$  50 yrs old will be at age  $\geq$  61 with time to serve remaining on their sentence.
- Estimated cost to house inmates:
  - Younger inmate = \$20,000 per year
  - Older inmate = \$70,000 per year

##### Sex Offenders

- System-wide (includes locally sentenced, back-up and TDOC in-house), as of February 2005, there were 3,351 inmates labeled as "sex offenders" by TDOC. Of these, 3,126 had at least one sex offense.
- FY 2003-04, there were on average 2,786 sex offenders housed in TDOC facilities (in-house only).
- By 2016, the population of sex offenders in TDOC facilities (in-house only) is projected to be approximately 3,578.
- For FY 2003-04, average time served (system-wide):
  - Forcible Sex Offense = 8 years 8 months
  - Non-Forcible Sex Offense = 2 years 1 month

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**Recent National Research:****NCJ Number:** 211083**Title:** Frequency and Characteristics of Prison Escapes in the United States: An Analysis of National Data**Journal:** *Prison Journal: An International Forum on Incarceration and Alternative Sanctions***Volume:** 85 **Issue:** 3 September 2005 **Pages:** 270 to 291**Author:** Richard F. Culp

Although prison escape raises public fear and causes greater scrutiny of the correctional system, there is a lack of cohesive data on prison escapes and official records on prison escape are simply not maintained on a standardized basis. Drawing on current national data on prison escapes, this article provides an analysis of the characteristics of prison escapes for the period 1988 through 1998. Data include a number of national annual criminal justice surveys drawn from the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data, as well as 88 newspaper accounts of prison escapes from 1997 to 1998. The analysis focused on estimating escape frequencies, captures, characteristics of escapees, methods of escape, violence against correctional staff, and escapee involvement in criminal activity following escape. Overall, the data indicate that approximately 3 percent of all inmates escape at some point during their prison term; annually, approximately 1.4 percent of the prison population escapes confinement. Most escapes (88.5 percent) occurred from minimum security facilities. The prison escape rate has been slowly declining even as the inmate population increases. The many interacting variables influencing prison escape suggest that a routine activities approach would be a useful perceptible for understanding the prison escape phenomenon.

**NCJ Number:** 210942**Title:** Visitations and Family (Re)unification**Journal:** *Corrections Compendium***Volume:** 30 **Issue:** 4 July/August 2005 **Pages:** 11 to 29**Editor:** Susan L. Clayton

**Abstract:** Fifty-one percent of the responding U.S. systems and 3 responding Canadian systems allow visitations every day of the week; 49 percent only open their facilities for visits on weekends and holidays. The number of visits per inmate varies significantly by the custody level of each facility. Twenty-one percent of the reporting U.S. systems and 3 reporting Canadian systems do not provide special activities for inmates' visitations. Some visitation activities mentioned are board games, picnics, television and video movies, and church services on Sundays. Thirty percent of the reporting U.S. systems do not offer separate areas for inmate's children during visits. For those systems that do have children's areas, playground equipment and other child-appropriate activities are provided. Sixty-seven percent of the U.S. systems and 3 in Canada have no plans to change their visitation policies. Regarding family reunification programs for inmates, 60 percent of the reporting U.S. systems have specialized classes, and 40 percent do not offer any reunification programs. A sampling of class topics includes family communication, parenting, reading aloud, family literacy and marriage seminars, domestic violence, stress management, financial planning, and elder care.

**NCJ Number:** 208703**Title:** Reentry Programs for Women Inmates**Journal:** *National Institute of Justice Journal***Issue:** 252 July 2005 **Pages:** 2 to 7

**Abstract:** The evaluation of two Delaware therapeutic community drug treatment programs for women, the KEY and CREST programs, found that both programs were gender appropriate, but recommended that the CREST program have female-only groups after observing that women tended to withdraw when challenged by men in group sessions. Further, the evaluation recommended that both programs be less rigid and punitive with women in enforcing program rules. A second program, the Forever Free Program, is a voluntary intensive residential drug treatment program for women inmates at the California Institution for Women in Corona, CA. The residential program is followed by voluntary community residential treatment during parole. Relapse prevention is emphasized. Program participants reported being rearrested and/or convicted at a significantly lower rate than a comparison group (40 percent versus 60 percent). A third program, the Seeking Safety Program, is a cognitive-behavioral treatment program in Massachusetts that can be used with both men and women, in groups or individual therapy settings, to develop skills for combating both substance addiction and posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). The evaluation's failure to find significant positive impacts from the program for women suggests that program participants may not have transferred skills learned in the program once they were released and re-entered the community. The fourth program involved discharge planning offered by the Rhode Island Department of Corrections to female inmates. Programs address substance abuse, education and job training, life-skills training, and emotional and mental health. The evaluation demonstrated that positive changes did occur, but were not translated into reduced recidivism.